



BUSINESS PAPER

Ordinary Council Meeting

10 December 2025

Mick Miller
Chief Executive Officer

**Notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Meeting of Council of the
Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council
will be held in the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council Chambers on:
Wednesday 10 December 2025 at 0900**

Order Of Business

1	Welcome.....	3
2	Apologies	3
3	Confirmation of Previous Minutes	3
4	Business Arising from Previous Minutes.....	17
5	Disclosure of Interest – Council / Register Updates	17
6	Matters for Discussion.....	18
6.1	CEO Operational Report	18
6.2	FNQ Regional Plan	23
6.3	Proposed 2026 OCM Dates	25
6.4	Pre 2013 Arrears Write Off.....	27
6.5	YASC Monthly Financial Report.....	28
6.6	People & Communities - Training and Development Update.....	30
6.7	People & Communities - Operational Report	31
6.8	Building Services.....	46
6.9	Infrastructure - Operational Report	51
6.10	Project Update Operational Report	58
7	Correspondence	63
7.1	Sponsorship	63
7.2	Sponsorship - Guyula Rugby League Team	65
8	Confidential Matters	67
	Nil	
9	Close of Meeting	67

- 1 WELCOME**
- 2 APOLOGIES**
- 3 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Ordinary Council Meeting - 20 November 2025

**MINUTES OF YARRABAH ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE YARRABAH ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON THURSDAY, 20 NOVEMBER 2025 AT 0900**

PRESENT: Cr Daryl Sexton (Mayor), Cr Michael Sands, Cr Amy Neal, Cr Brian Underwood, Cr Hezron Murgha, Michael Miller CEO, Mark Kelleher (Former Interim CEO),

IN ATTENDANCE: Richard Fitowski (Director - People and Communities), Wayne Douglas (Director - Building Services), Melissa Gudgeon (Executive Assistant),

4 MEETING OPEN AND WELCOME

Mayor Sexton declared the meeting open at 9.20am.

The Mayor welcomed councillors and staff members present to the meeting.

Mayor welcomed New CEO into his role and thanked former interim CEO for the last 4 months.

One minute silence was observed to respect those who have passed away.

Councillor Hezron Murgha opened with a word of Prayer.

5 APOLOGIES

Cr Amy Neal

6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

RESOLUTION 01:20/11/2025

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 15 October 2025 be adopted.

Moved: Cr Hezron Murgha

Seconded: Cr Brian Underwood

CARRIED

7 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

NIL

8 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST – COUNCIL / REGISTER UPDATES

NIL

At 10:00AM meeting was adjourned for morning tea

At 10:20AM the meeting was reconvened.

9 MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION**6.1 CEO OPERATIONAL REPORT****PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

Monthly Council meeting report on the operational and strategic performance of council business.

RESOLUTION 02:20/11/2025

That Council accept the CEO Operational Report, tabled as read.

Moved: Cr Daryl Sexton

Seconded: Cr Brian Underwood

CARRIED**6.2 ANNUAL REPORT****PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

The 2024–2025 Annual Report has been completed in accordance with the Local Government Act 2009 and Local Government Regulation 2012 (s190). The document outlines Council's performance, achievements and financial results for the period. Council is requested to formally adopt the Annual Report.

RESOLUTION 03:20/11/2025

That Council resolve to That Councillors support the adoption of the Annual Report at the Ordinary Council Meeting.

- Ensure familiarity with the Financial Statements and CEO Summary.
- Review Section 190 Compliance Checklist included as Appendix A.
- Adoption enables publication and formal lodgement with the State

Moved: Mayor Daryl Sexton

Seconded: Cr Michael Sands

CARRIED

6.3 INCREASE PAYMENT TO ARTISTS FOR THE SALE OF ARTWORK

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To seek Council endorsement to amend the current commission structure applied to artwork sales through the Yarrabah Arts and Cultural Centre, reducing Council's commission from 40% to 20% to increase benefits to local artists and encourage broader community participation in creative industries.

RESOLUTION 04:20/11/2025

That Council resolve to Approve the reduction of the commission charged by Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council on artwork sales from 40% to 20%.

Approve the update of all Artist and Art Centre Agreements to reflect the new 80/20 artist-to-Council revenue split, effective from 1 January 2026.

1. Direct the Arts and Cultural Centre Coordinator to implement the revised payment structure and communicate the change to all current and prospective artists.

Moved: Cr Michael Sands

Seconded: Mayor Daryl Sexton

3 CARRIED 1 AGAINST [HEZRON MURGHHA 70/30]

6.4 QLD AUDIT OFFICE - FINAL MANAGEMENT LETTER & ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

RESOLUTION 05:20/11/2025

That Council:

1. Endorse the QAO Financial Management Report for 2024/25 Financial Year.
2. CEO and executive management team instructed to ensure appropriate financial standards are met and actions identified for management attention are resolved in a timely manner.
3. The Council accept the Final 2024-25 Audited Financial statements.

Moved: Cr Michael Sands

Seconded: Mayor Daryl Sexton

CARRIED

6.5 YASC MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

Provide council with monthly financial report. This report covers the financial period 31st October 2025.

RESOLUTION 06:20/11/2025

That Council accept the 31st October 2025 Finance Reports as tabled.

1. Operating results
2. Current Debtors:
 - Trade Debtors & Creditors,
 - Housing Debtors
3. Capital works
4. Balance sheet
5. Cash position
6. Status of Commercial leases
7. Areas of Interest Report

Moved: Mayor Daryl Sexton

Seconded: Cr Brian Underwood

CARRIED

11:05am Richard Fitowski joined the meeting

6.6 PEOPLE & COMMUNITIES - TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

This report outlines recent and upcoming staff training to maintain a skilled, safe, and capable workforce.

RESOLUTION 07:20/11/2025

That Council accept the Training and Development Update Report, tabled as read.

Moved: Cr Brian Underwood

Seconded: Cr Hezron Murgha

CARRIED**6.7 PEOPLE & COMMUNITIES - OPERATIONAL REPORT****PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To provide Council an update on operational activities undertaken within the Department of People and Communities.

RESOLUTION 08:20/11/2025

That Council accept the Director of People and Communities Operational Report, tabled as read.

Moved: Mayor Daryl Sexton

Seconded: Cr Michael Sands

CARRIED

6.8 YARRABAH MUSIC FESTIVAL 2026 CONTRACTOR APPOINTMENT

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To provide an overview of the outcomes from the 2025 Yarrabah Music and Cultural Festival and present options for Council to consider regarding the appointment of a contractor to deliver the 2026 Festival.

BACKGROUND

For the 2025 Festival, Council appointed *On Country Events & Productions (OCEP)*, which delivered a very successful, safe and culturally grounded event that met all expectations and within budget.

2025 FESTIVAL MEDIA AND OUTREACH RESULTS

The 2025 Yarrabah Music and Cultural Festival achieved significant positive exposure through regional and national media platforms. Highlights include:

- Television Coverage: WIN News, Channel 7, and ABC News featured the festival, including interviews with Yarrabah Mayor Daryl Sexton, Darrell Harris, and local performers such as Dylan Harrigan and LolaRose Lyons.
- Radio: Extensive coverage by ABC Far North, Bumma Bippera Media, Star 102.7, and Triple M Cairns.
- Print & Digital Media: Featured articles and interviews in the *Cairns Post* and inclusion in Tourism Australia's August 2025 National Newsletter, showcasing the event as a key regional attraction.
- Online Reach: Facebook video posts via WIN News and ABC collectively generated thousands of views, increasing Yarrabah's cultural visibility and tourism profile

The festival successfully engaged local artists and businesses, met safety and logistical standards, and delivered strong community attendance within budget constraints.

2026 FESTIVAL PROPOSAL SUMMARY

OCEP has submitted a detailed Expression of Interest (EOI) for the 2026 Yarrabah Music & Cultural Festival, proposing to:

- Deliver a comprehensive nine-month planning and production schedule (January–September 2026).
- Continue a community co-design approach, involving Traditional Owners, Elders, and local artists in all decision-making.
- Introduce training programs under the *Indigenous Skills & Employment Program (ISEP)* to develop a sustainable local festival workforce.
- Prepare a three-to-five-year strategic plan for festival growth, aligning with Council's creative, social, and economic priorities.

- The proposal includes a budget adjustment to reflect expanded delivery and community engagement activities, which would be reviewed and presented to Council for consideration at a later date.

RESOLUTION 09:20/11/2025

THAT COUNCIL:

- a) Endorse the appointment of *Harris & Enoch Indigenous Enterprises Pty Ltd (On Country Events & Productions)* as the official contractor for the delivery of the 2026 Yarrabah Music and Cultural Festival

Moved: Cr Brian Underwood

Seconded: Mayor Daryl Sexton

CARRIED

At 12:28PM meeting was adjourned for lunch

12:30pm Richard Fitowski left the meeting

12:30pm Wayne Douglas joined the meeting

At 01:00PM the meeting was reconvened.

6.9 BUILDING SERVICES

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To provide Council with an update on the status and activities of the Building Services department for the period October 2025 – November 2025.

FOCUS AREAS

Restricted Work Orders:

YASC remains on restricted work orders (since March 2025). Many repairs and maintenance (R&M) requests continue to be on hold, which is creating significant frustration for both Council and the Yarrabah community. Advocacy to relevant State bodies continues, with the aim of returning the maintenance program to normal operations as soon as possible.

Internal Work Order System:

Development of the internal work order and purchase order module for contractor management is ongoing. Once implemented, it will improve the management of both Council facilities and external works.

Contractor List for Private Works:

Work continues to compile a list of qualified contractors (with contact details) for private property owners. Many owners are struggling to find contractors willing to travel into community.

QBuild Tenders:

A large volume of QBuild tenders is currently being received. Pricing is underway, with the objective of expediting purchase orders for early action.

QBUILD

Repairs & Maintenance – QBuild Work Orders

Days	13 Oct 2025 (Unplanned)	10 Nov 2025 (Unplanned)	13 Oct 2025 (Healthy Housing R2)	10 Nov 2025 (Healthy Housing R2)
+365	1	1	4	3
181–365	112	90	25	6
121–180	40	29	0	0
91–120	21	43	0	0
61–90	70	73	0	3
30–60	84	65	5	0
<30	89	151	0	0
TOTAL	416	452	34	12

R&M Roundup

Reminder to tenants to report maintenance issues through QBuild MRC. If tenants are having trouble reporting then our team is here to assist.

Current status on raising work orders remains as per the following: all QBuild considered urgent

requests are being raised with all other requests being “banked” until QBuild has the green light from the Department of Housing. This is posing a problem for Council as tenants are believing the work orders are raised for Council action when they have not. The issue lies with the relevant department within the state government and we are doing what we can to have this issue resolved. The local minister and the state housing minister has been briefed on our thoughts as well as in depth meetings with QBuild.

Healthy Housing Round 2 Status: Initial inspections are still on hold with still 54% of these inspections completed. There are 46 properties sitting at 100% completed. Current data shows we are 98% through 54% of the program. Only 12 work orders remain for 8 properties. All the rest are either invoiced or progressing to invoice.

The HH teams have pretty much come to a stop at present. On one hand they have been told that the program will be funded until June 2026 but on the other hand no new work orders are being raised for action. These are currently being “banked”. To me this is like going out to dinner without your wallet. You can look at the food but not eat it. Very disappointing for this great program to be placed in this position.

NAHA UPGRADES

2024–2025 Planned Projects

Category	% Completed	Status / Notes
Refurbishments	100%	Completed
Kitchens	100%	Completed
Flooring	25%	20 to be completed – require transitional housing
Bathrooms	96%	1 to be completed
Bathroom & flooring	15%	PO received. Contractor nominated.
Laundries	100%	Completed
Driveways	90%	1 WIP currently at 70%
Paints	100%	Completed
Home Modifications	95%	4 to be completed
Various API	95%	Waiting on quotation approval for the rest.
Various Upgrades	0%	14 waiting on Department of Housing approval

Upgrade Program (2024–2025)

32 Tenders now received from QBuild with 25% of these already priced. So far two of these have been approved to proceed.

Bathrooms – 20 properties planned

Flooring – 21 properties planned

Kitchens – 17 properties planned
Laundries – 6 properties planned
Roofing – 4 properties planned
Paint work orders – 118 planned (approx. 48 properties)
Home Modifications – Estimated 25
Various API – Estimated 30
Water Service – Estimated 10–15
Ad Hoc Upgrades – 7 known so far

RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve to the report as tabled and read

RESOLUTION

Moved: Mayor Daryl Sexton
Seconded: Cr Michael Sands

Wayne Douglas left meeting at 1:42pm

6.10 INFRASTRUCTURE - OPERATIONAL REPORT**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To report to Council the status/activities of Infrastructure Department areas for the month of October/November 2025.

RESOLUTION 10:20/11/2025

That Council accept the report of the Director-Infrastructure, tabled as read.

Moved: Cr Brian Underwood
Seconded: Cr Hezron Murgha

CARRIED

6.11 PROJECT UPDATE OPERATIONAL REPORT**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

Provide and update to Council on the funding and Project Status for November.

RESOLUTION 11:20/11/2025

That Council resolve to accept the report of the Construction Project Manager as read.

Moved: Mayor Daryl Sexton

Seconded: Cr Hezron Murgha

CARRIED

1:42pm Dominique Charpentier joined the meeting

6.12 YARRABAH COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN REVIEW 2025 (CSP)**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To seek Council endorsement of the Yarrabah Community Safety Plan Review 2025 (CSP), the Yarrabah Service Enhancement Implementation Plan (SEIP), and the establishment of a SEIP Committee to support future advocacy and implementation.

RESOLUTION 12:20/11/2025

FOR COUNCIL TO ENDORSE THE RECOMMENDATION FOR CSP & SEIP AS PRESENTED

Moved: Cr Brian Underwood

Seconded: Cr Hezron Murgha

CARRIED

Action: Photos to be approved by family – Cr Brian Underwood / Dominique Charpentier to add the photo disclosure document

1:50pm Dominique Carpentier left the meeting

10 CORRESPONDENCE**7.1 SPONSORSHIP - SURVIVAL DAY KNOCKOUTS****PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To seek Council consideration of a sponsorship request from the Survival Day Knockouts Reconciliation Carnival for the 2026 event.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve to That Council resolve to:

1. Receive and note the sponsorship request from Mr. Noel Underwood for the **2026 Survival Day Knockouts Reconciliation Carnival**.
2. Approve a sponsorship contribution (financial or in-kind) to support the event, to be determined in consultation with the **People and Communities Directorate** and within the approved **Community Grants and Sponsorship budget**.
3. Authorise the **Chief Executive Officer** to liaise with event organisers to finalise sponsorship arrangements and acknowledgement requirements.

7.2 SPONSORSHIP - GUYULA RUGBY LEAGUE TEAM**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To seek Council's consideration and endorsement of a sponsorship request from the Guyula Rugby League Team to support their participation in the 2025 Rugby League Season and associated community events. The request aligns with Council's commitment to promoting community wellbeing, youth development, and Indigenous leadership.

RESOLUTION 13:20/11/2025

Council resolved to move this to the DEC meeting when a quorum

Moved: Cr Brian Underwood

Seconded: Cr Daryl Sexton

CARRIED

11 STRATEGIC PORTFOLIO UPDATE

Councillors to provide updates on Meetings and Trips and other information for the meeting.

Nil

12 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

Nil

13 CLOSE OF MEETING

Date for the next Council Ordinary Meeting is Wednesday 10 December 2025.

The Mayor thanked the councillors and staff for their participation and attendance at the meeting.

Meeting closed at 2:30 pm.

.....

MAYOR

14 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

15 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST – COUNCIL / REGISTER UPDATES

16 MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

6.1 CEO OPERATIONAL REPORT

File Number: 01.MFD_OM.20251210

Author: Michael Miller, Chief Executive Officer

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To provide Council with an update on key operational activities, meetings, projects, and emerging matters since the previous Ordinary Council Meeting.

2. BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

2.1 Interagency Collaboration – Education Queensland, QPS & YASC

A meeting was held between EQ, QPS, and YASC to strengthen collaborative responses around youth engagement and community safety.

Key points included:

EQ noted improved school engagement and identified ~6 high-risk students needing joint support.

QPS provided updates on current youth safety initiatives.

YASC reaffirmed willingness to support interagency collaboration, noting youth engagement is outside core functions.

CEO committed to requesting DATSIP to reconvene Interagency Meetings.

Council to consider hosting future meetings at the Chambers.

2.2 Meeting with Gunggandji Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC

The Mayor and CEO met with Ms. Lynese Hari to discuss strengthening partnerships, progressing the Cultural Heritage Survey for Balamba, and exploring future land development opportunities, including re-opening the quarry site.

Regular meetings will commence in the new year.

2.3 Initial Discussion with Community Enterprise Queensland (CEQ)

CEQ's CEO contacted YASC to explore establishing a community store offering competitively priced goods.

The CEO emphasised local employment, training, and leadership pathways.

Council direction is required on whether to progress to a formal proposal and land assessment.

2.4 Council Housing Stock Review

Preliminary checks confirm Council owns 11 houses, mostly used for social or transitional accommodation.

Although rental income is received, Council bears full maintenance costs.

Guidance is requested from Council on preferred future management of these assets, including potential transfer to social housing providers or retaining selected properties.

2.5 Yarrabah Social Housing and Upgrade Program

CEO followed up with DDG Ms. Danielle McAllister regarding previously raised concerns.

Acting Director Rick Healey confirmed urgent attention is being directed to outstanding work orders.

CEO continues to escalate priority issues affecting community housing.

2.6 CEO Site Visits and Operational Engagement

The CEO has undertaken multiple site visits, pre-start meetings, and one-on-one Director meetings to build operational awareness and support organisational alignment.

These visits will continue as part of ongoing leadership visibility.

2.7 Balamba Master Plan Updates

The Cultural Heritage Report has not progressed. Council is waiting on the Gunggandji Aboriginal Corporation (GAC) to provide a quote for the work to commence. This was first requested in August 2023. The design for stage 1 and 2, and the overall masterplan should be informed by this report. In principle the design can commence without the Cultural heritage report, however the support of the GAC and an understanding of any cultural heritage considerations remain important.

The additional vegetation and wetland ecology report has been commissioned, this will inform the impact of diverting water away from the site and inform the amount of fill required across the site. Quarry the original NRM Development Permit SPCE04138012 was approved in 2012 and expired 9 August 2017. Officers are investigating the process and requirements to re-establish the quarry.

2.8 99-Year Home Ownership Leases – EOI Policy

Draft EOI Policy is on public display: 3 December 2025 – 28 January 2026.

Distributed to stakeholders including GAC and GMYPPC.

Public notices are issued via Council media channels.

2.9 FNQROC Regional Plan

The draft Regional Plan is open for comments until 5 January. A separate report is provided on this matter.

3. Financial Implications

No direct financial implications arising from this report.

Separate reports will be provided to Council for matters requiring funding decisions (e.g., housing asset management, CEQ proposal, quarry reactivation).

4. Strategic Alignment

This report supports delivery of YASC's:

Corporate Plan priorities

Community safety initiatives

Housing and infrastructure development objectives

Strengthened stakeholder relationships and interagency coordination

5. Risk & Compliance Considerations

Need to ensure appropriate governance around housing asset management.

Cultural Heritage requirements must be met before major works at Balamba proceed.

Interagency coordination is essential for reducing community risk in youth engagement.

MEETINGS | KEY FOCUS AREAS

MEETINGS / EVENTS

- ◇ Yarrabah Amphitheatre Project | Info Sessions – Tuesday 9th December
- ◇ NIAA – Elaine Baker | Monday 15th December
- ◇ End Of Year celebration \$130 @ Riley – Friday 5th December
- ◇ Office Shut Down – 19th Dec to 5th Jan

GOVERNANCE

We are actively monitoring and reviewing internal processes to ensure ongoing compliance with all relevant legislative and regulatory requirements.

GRANTS MANAGEMENT OPERATIONAL UPDATE

Grants Team continues to build a comprehensive list/status of all grant briefs, grants considered, grants applied and forecast opportunities in collaboration with each Department.

Council has acquired a Contract Management Software that will be used to record all grants and ensure better visibility of contractual obligations and milestones. This is being implemented.

Grant management processes are in place, maintaining a comprehensive register of all grant briefs, applications, and upcoming opportunities in collaboration with each department.

Council's Contract Management System is now operational and used to record all grants, providing clear visibility of contractual obligations, milestones, and reporting timelines.

GRANTS SUBMITTED DURING PERIOD

- **Queensland Government - State Emergency Services - SES Support Grant-** Extension of the SES building to create an outdoor training Facility. **\$150,000.**

SUCCESSFUL GRANTS

Australian Government – Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water – Community Energy Upgrade Fund – Round 2 Empower Yarrabah Microgrid Project, Solar Phase – \$425,000

UNSUCCESSFUL GRANTS

- **Queensland Government – Queensland Reconstruction Authority - Disaster Resilience Fund – Empower Yarrabah – Microgrid Project - \$2,636,720**

Highly Competitive round with over 200 applications. YASC's application wasn't successful.

GRANTS AWAITING OUTCOME

- **Queensland Government – Arts Queensland, Department – Indigenous Regional Arts Development Fund (IRADF) 2025–26 – Yarrabah Screen Printing Capacity Building Project - \$25,000**

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

- **Australian Government – Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water - Community Energy Upgrades Fund – Funding for energy efficiency and electrification upgrades of local government facilities - Up to \$2,500,000**
- **Australian Government – Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation – Our Country Our Future- Invited to apply to fund part of the Employer Yarrabah Project – Up to \$2,600,000**
- **Australian Government – Australian Renewable Energy Agency – Advancing Renewable Program – Funding for initiatives that optimise transition to renewable Energy – No Maximum amount**
- **Australian Government – Department of Education – Early Childhood Education and Care Worker Retention Payment Grant – Funding to support wage increases for childcare and OSHC workers employed under eligible workplace instruments – No maximum amount**
- **Queensland Government – Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety – Flexible Funding Grants – Funding targeted initiatives to improve disaster preparedness and resilience of vulnerable people, families, communities, and organisations in response to Tropical Cyclone Jasper, Associated Rainfall and Flooding (13 – 28 Dec 2023) – Up to \$3,800,000**
- **Queensland Government - State Emergency Services - SES Support Grant- Grant available to ensure SES members are adequately resourced and equipped to assist the community - up to \$150,000 for Facility, Up to \$75,000 for Vehicle.**
- **Queensland Government – Department of Environment, Science and Innovation – Resource Recovery Boost Fund (RRBF) - Stream 1- Supports Queensland councils to improve waste reduction and recycling - Up to \$2 million**
- **Queensland Government – Department of Environment, Science and Innovation – Resource Recovery Boost Fund (RRBF) - Stream 1- Supports Queensland councils to improve waste reduction and recycling - Up to \$2 million**
- **Queensland Government – Department of Environment, Science and Innovation – Resource Recovery Boost Fund (RRBF) – Stream 2 - Supports Queensland councils to improve waste reduction and recycling – No Max amount**

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council accept the CEO Operational Report, tabled as read.

6.2 FNQ REGIONAL PLAN

File Number: 01.MFD_OM.20251210

Author: Nikki Huddy, Director - Planz Town Planning

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report provides Council with an overview of the draft Far North Queensland (FNQ) Regional Plan and Infrastructure Plan, which is on public display for submissions until **5 January 2026**, and seeks endorsement of Council's submission reflecting Yarrabah's priorities and critical infrastructure needs.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of the **FNQ Draft Regional Plan 2025** is to guide long-term growth and development by ensuring adequate housing, supporting economic activity, protecting the natural environment, and improving quality of life across the region. Key priorities include:

- **Housing:** Accelerating housing supply in infrastructure-ready, well-located areas.
- **Economy:** Boosting regional industries including agriculture, tourism, defence, and marine services.
- **Environment:** Protecting and enhancing FNQ's biodiversity and natural assets.
- **Communities:** Improving quality of life, health and wellbeing for FNQ communities.
- **Infrastructure:** Planning for efficient and resilient transport, water and energy systems that support population and economic growth.

The Regional Plan also sets out the relationship between State, regional and local planning frameworks.

Council provided preliminary feedback through **FNQROC** in late 2024 and early 2025. Feedback focused on inclusion of Yarrabah's unique needs, First Nations recognition, and adequate infrastructure prioritisation

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

While the draft FNQ Infrastructure Plan identifies Yarrabah as a District Regional Activity Centre, the broader policy framework does not reflect:

the significant service deficit in Yarrabah, or

the need for tailored approaches for discrete Aboriginal communities compared with non-Indigenous centres of similar classification.

The Infrastructure Plan will be a critical document guiding future State funding allocations. Yarrabah's infrastructure needs – which directly influence community wellbeing and social determinants – are insufficiently represented.

Council has developed a Critical Infrastructure for Yarrabah (February 2025) report, outlining priority projects and indicative costs across a 20-year horizon. Delivery of these projects would meaningfully support the objectives of both the Regional Plan and Infrastructure Plan.

The submission requests:

- a) Inclusion of Yarrabah's critical infrastructure projects in the FNQ Infrastructure Plan;

b) An opportunity to discuss these projects with the State and provide additional supporting material (e.g., Transport Network Plan) prior to finalisation of the Plan.

RISKS

Failure to include Yarrabah in the FNQ Infrastructure Plan undermines the strategic justification for long-term State investment in Yarrabah's essential infrastructure.

Given the draft 2025 Plan is intended to guide major future investment across the region, Yarrabah's absence is a significant concern.

Submitting a formal response to the State is an appropriate action to raise this issue and advocate for Yarrabah's inclusion.

ATTACHMENTS

1. **Submission**
2. **Briefing Notes**

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- a) Endorse the attached submission to the FNQ Regional Plan and provide the Critical Infrastructure for Yarrabah (February 2025) as supporting documentation;
- b) Request a meeting with the State to discuss the submission and provide additional materials such as the Transport Network Plan prior to finalisation of the Regional and Infrastructure Plans;
- c) Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to undertake further discussions with the State Government and to finalise, amend or lodge any additional submissions as required.

6.3 PROPOSED 2026 OCM DATES

File Number: 01.MFD_OM.20251210

Author: Michael Miller, Chief Executive Officer

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To present the proposed Ordinary Council Meeting (OCM) dates for the 2026 calendar year and seek Council's endorsement of the meeting schedule to allow for publication in accordance with Section 277 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

BACKGROUND

Council is required to determine and publish the dates of its Ordinary Council Meetings each calendar year. Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council traditionally holds its OCMs on **Wednesdays at 9:00am** in the Council Chambers, generally aligning with the **third Wednesday of each month** to provide consistency for Councillors, staff, and the community.

The proposed 2026 meeting dates follow this established pattern and ensure compliance with legislative and governance requirements.

Month	Date	Day	Time
January	21 January 2026	Wednesday	9:00am
February	18 February 2026	Wednesday	9:00am
March	18 March 2026	Wednesday	9:00am
April	15 April 2026	Wednesday	9:00am
May	20 May 2026	Wednesday	9:00am
June	17 June 2026	Wednesday	9:00am
July	15 July 2026	Wednesday	9:00am
August	19 August 2026	Wednesday	9:00am
September	16 September 2026	Wednesday	9:00am
October	21 October 2026	Wednesday	9:00am
November	18 November 2026	Wednesday	9:00am
December	16 December 2026	Wednesday	9:00am

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Endorsement of the meeting schedule supports organisational planning, statutory compliance, and transparency.

ATTACHMENTS**1. 2026 OCM Dates****RECOMMENDATION**

That Council resolve to That Council resolve to endorse the Ordinary Council Meeting Schedule for the 2026 calendar year, with meetings to be held on the proposed dates listed in this report.

1. That Council approves the publication of the 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting dates in accordance with Section 277 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

6.4 PRE 2013 ARREARS WRITE OFF

File Number: 03.MFD_OM.20241030

Author: Mike Mair, Director - Corporate Services

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

Arrears write off recommendation

BACKGROUND

Debts are prior to Council taking over Management of Housing in 2013. Council has already provided for the amount in the Credit Loss Allowance.

COMMENT

The list of pre 2013 debtors will be tabled separately to the business papers for review due to confidentiality concerns.

POLICY/FUNDING CONSIDERATIONS

Nil

RISK

Nil

CONSULTATION

CEO

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve to write off the arrears totalling \$829,586.38

1. It is recommended due to there being no legal process to recover the pre 2013 rent arrears that the amount of \$ 829,586.38 be written off.

6.5 YASC MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

File Number: 02.MFD_OM.20251120

Author: Mike Mair, Director - Corporate Services

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

Provide council with monthly financial report. This report covers the financial period 31st October 2025.

BACKGROUND

This report is created with the following in mind:

Local Government Regulations, s204 - Financial

(1) The local government must prepare a financial report.

(2) The chief executive officer must present the financial report—

(a) if the local government meets less frequently than monthly—at each meeting of the local government; or

(b) otherwise —at a meeting of the local government once a month.

(3) The financial report must state the progress that has been made in relation to the local government's budget for the period of the financial year up to a day as near as practicable to the end of the month before the meeting is held.

CEO delegates the reporting responsibility to the Corporate Services Director – Mike Mair.

It should be noted that due to the early meeting date, the close off of November's result is not possible thus October's results reflect the most accurate position at this time.

The report presented at the January 2026 meeting will reflect up to date results as at 31 December 2025.

COMMENT

The information provided in this report reflects the financial accounts and statements for the month end.

The content of the reports to include information on the following:

Overview of

1. Operating results
2. Current Debtors
 - Trade Debtors & Trade Creditors,
 - Housing Debtors
3. Capital works
4. Balance sheet
5. Cash position
6. Commercial leases
7. Areas of Interest Report

POLICY/FUNDING CONSIDERATIONS

Local Government Regulations, s204 - Financial

RISK

Compliance.

CONSULTATION

Executive Leadership Team

Finance Manager

ATTACHMENTS

1. Finance Report October 2025
2. Areas of Interest Report October 2025

RECOMMENDATION

That Council accept the 31st October 2025 Finance Reports as tabled.

1. Operating results
2. Current Debtors:
 - Trade Debtors & Creditors,
 - Housing Debtors
3. Capital works
4. Balance sheet
5. Cash position
6. Status of Commercial leases
7. Areas of Interest Report

6.6 PEOPLE & COMMUNITIES - TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

File Number: 04.MFD_OM.20251210

Author: Richard Fitowski, Director People and Communities

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report outlines recent and upcoming staff training to maintain a skilled, safe, and capable workforce.

Recent Training and Development Activities

Council staff participated in a range of professional development and industry engagement opportunities throughout November:

- Certificate II in Security Operations – 1 Participant

Qualification in Progress

- Certificate II in Horticulture: 2 participants
- Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care: 4 participants
- Certificate III in Business Administration: 2 participants
- Certificate IV in WHS: 1 participant
- Diploma in Early Childhood Education and Care: 3 participants

Upcoming Training and Development

- Heavy Vehicle Licensing :10 participants
- Certificate IV in Social Housing: 1 participant
- First Aid & CPR – Daycare: 13 participants

Council continues to seek training and funding opportunities to support staff development. Ongoing professional growth remains a key priority to ensure a skilled and capable workforce.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council accept the Training and Development Update Report, tabled as read.

6.7 PEOPLE & COMMUNITIES - OPERATIONAL REPORT

File Number: 04.MFD_OM.20251210

Author: Richard Fitowski, Director People and Communities

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To provide Council an update on operational activities undertaken within the Department of People and Communities.

OPERATIONAL UPDATE

This report covers activities for the period of October 2025 and provides Council information on activities and progress of projects for the Department in line with Council functions, community services, funding agreements and project timelines in these areas:

1. Community Housing
2. Early Learning Centre
3. Yarrabah Indigenous Knowledge Centre
4. Yarrabah Arts Cultural Precinct
5. Community Events & Programs
6. Workplace Health and Safety and Security

1. COMMUNITY HOUSING

Housing report – November

Total Number of stock	Year to Date Occupied	Current Vacant	Total Stock
	392	Potters place Balamba Road	393
Financials NOVEMBER	Rent Charged for housing stock	Rent Payments received	Arrears repayments received
	\$209,514.70	\$157,860.64	\$11,315.00
Arrears	Total to date	Total FY24/25	Vacated
	235 tenants \$3,017,346.04	205 tenants \$2,560,018.22	53 vacated tenants \$460,702.32
Property Inspections	FY2025 to date - complete	Monthly inspections Completed	Monthly Inspections Scheduled
	135	39	78

Engagement activities	Number of discussions with tenants regarding arrears/enquiries Month	Number of discussions with tenants regarding arrears/enquiries FY25 to Date	Housing Waitlist
	136	806	462 Applicants 3 New applicants 6 Waitlist updates
Arrears Management (Form11)	First Notice Form11's Rental Arrears issued Month to Date	Total Form 11's Rental Arrears issued FY2025 to Date	Monthly Rental statements
	0	0	388
	Second Notice 11's issued Month to Date	Third Notice 11's issued Month to date	Number of notice to leave (form12)
	0	0	0

Monthly Overview

- **Arrears Management:**
Five arrears’ visits were conducted during the month, with one tenant continuing to refuse rent payment. Follow-up actions are underway in line with Council procedures.

- **CentrePay Administration:**
Six CentrePay deduction forms were completed and submitted.

- **Property Inspections:**
Of the scheduled inspections, 20 have been completed.
15 inspections were rescheduled due to:
 - Tenants not being at home
 - Sorry Business occurring within the community

- **Noise Complaints:**
The Housing Team has received several noise reports from the local QPS. These matters will be managed in accordance with the Residential Tenancies Authority (RTA) requirements and YASC Noise Policy.

- **Ambrym Street Redevelopment Notices:**
The team has been proactive in delivering notices to households affected by the Ambrym Street redevelopment.

- Get Ready Program:
“Get Ready” information bags were distributed across the community, with one per household delivered.

2. EARLY LEARNING CENTRE (DAYCARE)

1. Enrolments and Licensing

2. November was a busy month with a high volume of enquiries for 2026 enrolments.

Current enrolment status is as follows:

- Tiny Tots: Fully booked
- Toddlers: Fully booked
- Junior Kindy: Limited vacancies available

3. The service is awaiting final building plans to progress a proposed licence increase from 42 to 59 places, which would enable greater capacity to meet community demand in 2026.

4.

5. Program Delivery and Daily Operations

6. The centre had an active month with both indoor and outdoor activities.

- Christmas preparations have commenced with decorations and planned events.
- Water play sessions were incorporated during high-temperature days.
- Outdoor activity times were scheduled according to UV index guidelines to minimise heat and sun exposure risks.
- Children were encouraged to maintain hydration and sunscreen was applied regularly.

7. The annual Christmas Family Party is scheduled for Friday, 5 December, including:

- A video produced by Educators featuring a local version of *The 12 Days of Christmas*
- A visit from Santa, arriving with Police support
- Gift distribution and family photo opportunities

8.



9.

10.

11. Staff Training and Development

12. The training room is now in use, supporting ongoing staff development:

- Two employees have commenced Diploma qualifications
- A third employee has begun the Certificate III in Early Childhood
- The Lead Educator is providing structured support and guidance

13. Several new staff members have been recruited, with qualifications completed or in progress. This has reduced pressure on existing staff and contributed to improved team cohesion and program quality.

Programming, observations, and reflections continue to meet a high standard and are expected to exceed Department of Education requirements.

14.

15.

16. Inclusion and External Support

17. Inclusion Support Queensland visited in the second-last week of November.

Their feedback was positive, noting the strong range of learning experiences and equipment now available.

They also invited the centre to participate in a Child Trauma Training Course following completion of the Autism Training program.

18.

19. End-of-Year Closure and Compliance

20. Parents have been advised that the last day of operation for 2025 is Thursday, 18 December. Staff will undertake a full centre clean on Friday, 19 December, with reopening scheduled for 6 January 2026.

5 January will be allocated to mandatory First Aid and CPR training for all staff.

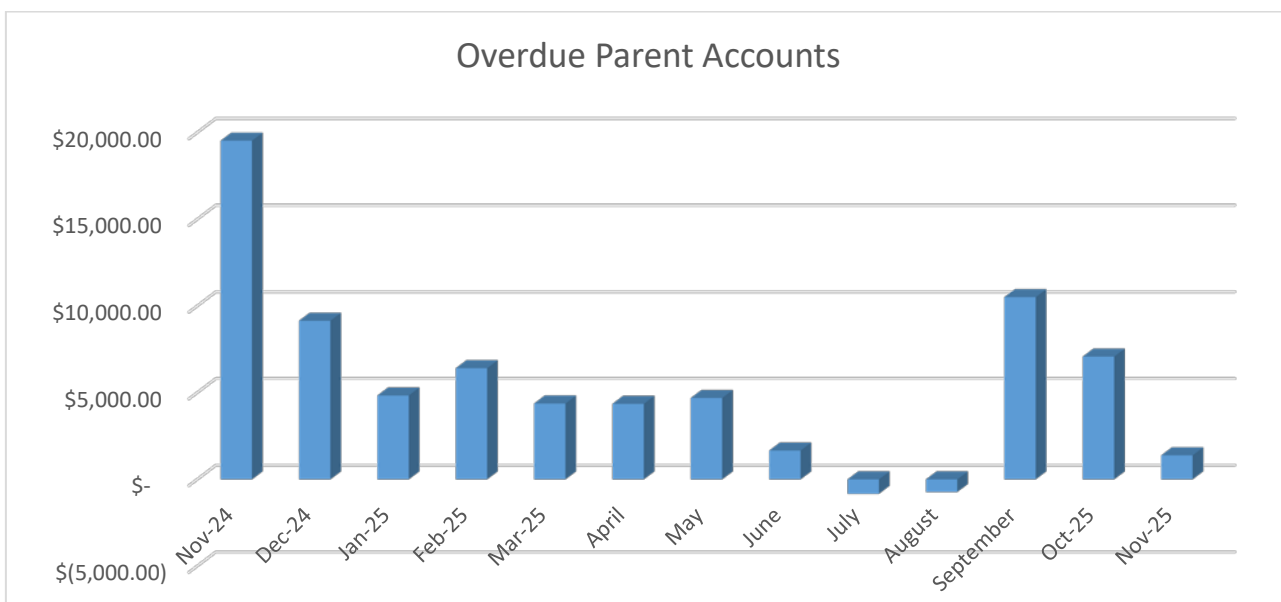
21.

22. Financial Summary

23. Outstanding parent accounts now total \$1,385.26, representing a significant reduction from \$7,080.92 in the previous month.

24. Parents have been reminded that all accounts must be paid in full prior to closure to maintain eligibility for 2026 enrolment. This approach has proven effective in previous years.

25.



26.

27.

28. Number of Children in Attendance Daily

Tiny Tots	7
Toddlers	9
Jnr Kindy	19
Inclusion Support	4
Total	<u>39</u>

3. YARRABAH INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE CENTRE

First 5 forever	24
Secondary school bus count	444
Primary school bus count	684
Door Count	209

First 5 Forever

The First 5 Forever (F5F) program continued to attract steady participation throughout November, with families of children aged 0–5 engaging in a range of early literacy and learning activities.

Program delivery this month included:

- Activity booklets designed to support early learning through play
- A selection of age-appropriate storybooks for shared reading
- A calm, family-friendly space that supports purposeful interaction between parents and children

These activities contribute to early literacy development, social engagement, and the creation of positive early learning habits. Feedback from parents indicated that the environment remains welcoming, accessible, and conducive to focused time with their children.

Digital Inclusion

Installation of New Interactive Screen

A major milestone was reached this month with the installation of a state-of-the-art interactive screen at the IKC. This upgrade marks a significant step forward in our commitment to promoting digital inclusion and will be central in delivering engaging, technology-enabled programs.

The first suite of digital programs planned includes:

Who's Your Mob?

A cultural identity program supporting community members to explore family histories, trace genealogies, and share stories that strengthen pride in cultural heritage.

The new screen enables group discussions, presentations, and visual storytelling in a culturally safe and interactive space.

Digital Storytelling

This creative program guides participants through producing multimedia stories using film, animation, and interactive digital tools.

It blends traditional storytelling with modern technology, empowering participants to share their narratives with confidence and digital skill.

2.3 Pocket Cinema

Pocket Cinema brings filmmaking into the hands of the community using smartphones, tablets, and the new interactive screen.

Participants learn:

- Storyboarding
- Filming
- Editing
- Producing short films

This program builds practical digital literacy while encouraging collaboration and creative expression.

Program Support

QLD Libraries continue to play a key role in the successful rollout of these digital initiatives, providing technical expertise, participant support, and guidance in creating an inclusive learning environment.

Daily Use of the IKC

The IKC remained a highly active and valued community hub during November, with consistent daily engagement across a wide range of services.

Community Services & Administrative Support

Community members regularly used the IKC for:

- Printing and scanning
- Preparing funeral booklets
- Accessing NILS (No Interest Loan Scheme) information
- Assistance with forms and online applications

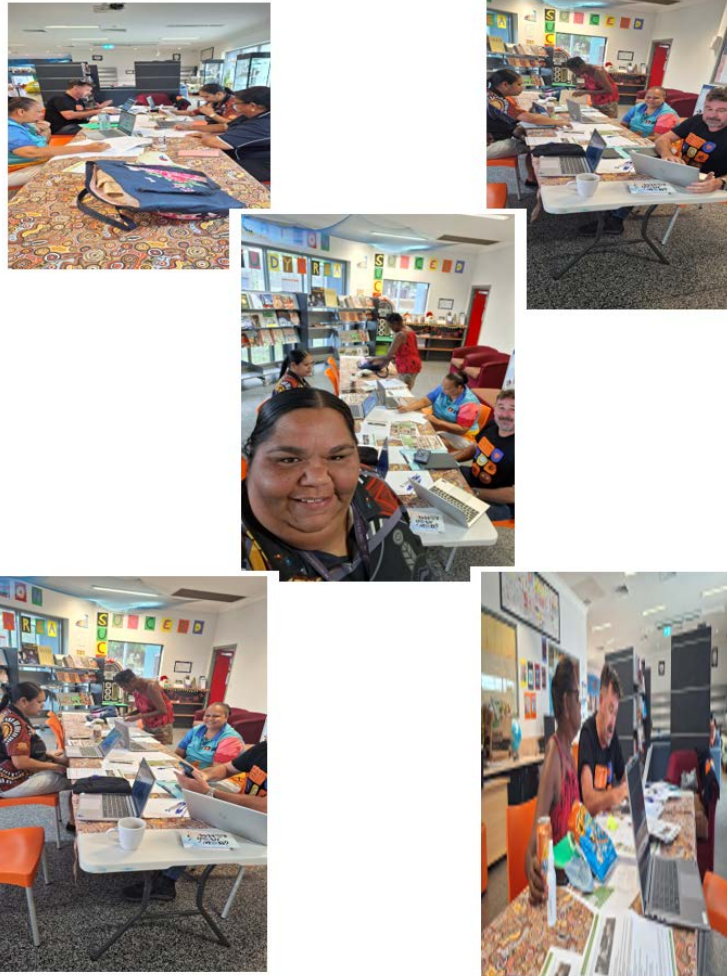
Staff provided ongoing support to ensure community members could access essential services confidently and efficiently.

Learning & Engagement Activities

The IKC continued to host adult learning activities, workshops, and after-school programs for children. These programs promote:

- Literacy
- Creativity
- Positive social interactions

Participation remained strong throughout the month.



General Enquiries & Room Hire

General enquiries formed a significant portion of daily interactions, highlighting the community's trust in the IKC as a first point of contact for support and information.

Room hire requests also continued steadily, with spaces used for meetings, small gatherings, and quiet study.

Informal Use

Community members frequently visited the IKC to:

- Relax
- Read
- Access Wi-Fi
- Enjoy the air-conditioned space—especially during the hot weather

The Library and IKC continue to provide vital early learning opportunities, digital inclusion initiatives, and day-to-day community support. Engagement remained strong across all programs

and services, reinforcing the central role these facilities play in supporting learning, cultural connection, creativity, and community wellbeing.

4. YARRABAH ARTS AND CULTURAL PRECINCT

The Yarrabah Arts and Cultural Precinct (YACP) continue to serve as a vital hub for cultural preservation and community engagement, showcasing and celebrating the artistic heritage of Yarrabah.

Patronage and Sales

Since 1 July 2025, the Yarrabah Arts & Cultural Precinct (YACP) has welcomed 842 visitors, including 49 visitors during October. Year-to-date sales total \$56,205 with \$3,982 generated in October. Both visitor engagement and sales continue to trend positively as the precinct strengthens its presence across national and international platforms, providing greater exposure and opportunities for local artists.

Number of patrons	Month to Date	Year to Date
	49	842
Sales	Month to Date	Year to Date (from 1 July 2025)
	\$3,982	\$56,205

Exhibitions and Showcases

Queensland Museum – *Croc! Lost Giants to Living Legends*

The Queensland Museum has launched its major exhibition *Croc! Lost Giants to Living Legends*, which explores the science, cultural significance, and global history of crocodiles—from prehistoric “supercrocs” to modern species.

The exhibition features contributions from several national institutions, including:

- Queensland Museum
- Australian National Maritime Museum
- Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory

Importantly, Yarrabah's own local potter and long-standing cultural contributor, Edwin Deemera, has artworks included in the exhibition (see image below). This represents a significant recognition of local artistic talent at a state and national level.

The exhibition will tour nationally, with scheduled locations including Canberra, Sydney, and Darwin.

Background:

Croc! Lost Giants to Living Legends examines the deep connections between people and crocodiles, reflecting both scientific knowledge and cultural perspectives—from early First Nations narratives through to modern representations in popular media.



Bailey Crystalbrook, Cairns

The Bailey Crystalbrook exhibition opened on 3 October and concluded with a scheduled bump-out on 27 November, which was managed by YACP staff.

While no sales were recorded, the exhibition provided strong visibility for Yarrabah artists and increased public awareness of Yarrabah's cultural community.

UMI Arts: Summer Show

Applications submitted for artists Philomena Yeatman, Edna Yeatman, and Salome Yeatman were successful.

All works were delivered and the exhibition officially launched on 21 November 2025.

London UCL University: International Exhibition

A selection of Yarrabah artworks has been accepted for display at the School for the Creative and Cultural Industries, UCL East (London).

Payment arrangements and logistics for international shipment are currently being finalised.

Sabbia Gallery, Sydney

YACP artists have been selected to participate in a high-end group exhibition at Sabbia Gallery.

Agreements are in place, works are complete, and transport to Sydney is underway.

The exhibition runs from 10 December 2025 to 24 January 2026.

Cairns Art Gallery: Fellowship Exhibition

Philomena Yeatman's Fellowship Award exhibition has been confirmed for February 2026.

Artwork completion is on track for January, and the loan agreement has now been finalised.

Country to Couture 2026

The application for Country to Couture 2026 has been submitted.

Textiles have been screen-printed, and sewing will continue through November–December.

The collection remains on schedule for completion by May 2026.

Community Engagement and Sales

We continue to maintain regular stock levels of Yarrabah artworks at the Cairns Art Gallery Shop, NorthSite Arts, UMI Arts, and Ancient Journeys, with consistent sales across outlets.

Arts Queensland Visit to Yarrabah

On 10 November, representatives from Arts Queensland visited the YACP.

A site tour and discussions with artists were held, focusing on current programs and future opportunities for collaboration.

Literacy for Life: Ceramic Workshop

On 11th November, Michelle Yeatman facilitated a ceramic workshop with the Yarrabah Literacy for Life group, providing participants with hands-on creative experience and insight into the history of pottery in Yarrabah.

Indigenous Business Expo: Cairns Pier

Centre manager represented YACP at the Indigenous Business Expo on 12 November, hosting a market stall.

While sales were limited, the event provided valuable networking opportunities and increased visibility for Yarrabah artists.

Social Media Highlights

- Post Reach: 24,864
- Post Engagement: 10,201

5. COMMUNITY EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

During the month of **November**, Council, in collaboration with various community stakeholders, delivered a number of meaningful programs and events across Yarrabah. These initiatives aimed to support community wellbeing, strengthen partnerships, and enhance local engagement. The events and activities held throughout November are outlined below:

CSO and the Housing Team have been working collaboratively to distribute the Get Ready Packs to all households within the community.

CSO has been meeting with Gweneth Yeatman regarding her upcoming youth program titled "Embracing Our Future." She has proposed this initiative to Council and is seeking cooperation to work alongside Council in delivering the program to the community.

CSO has been working alongside Gurriny Yealamucka Health Service to support their Annual Men's Forum, which was held at the Yarrabah Community Hall. The event had a strong turnout, providing a safe and positive space for men in the community to gather, share their experiences, and openly discuss the issues they are facing. This partnership continues to play an important role in promoting men's wellbeing and strengthening community support networks.

CSO has collaborated with A Bright Night Fireworks to organise a New Year's Eve fireworks display for the Yarrabah community. The event will take place at the foreshore, providing families with the opportunity to come together and celebrate the end of the year.

The next upcoming event will be

- Survival Day
- YASC Christmas Party & Lunch
- Yarrabah New Year's Eve fireworks

Facilities Hire

Venue Bookings for the Month total:	
Community Hall Booking	8 Bookings
IKC Meeting Room	4
HR Training Room / Meeting Room	11 bookings

Bishop Malcolm Park	0
---------------------	---



6. WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY

Safety Inductions

The Safety team continues to work toward 100% completion of online Safety Inductions. Outstanding inductions primarily relate to casual council employees, and follow-up is underway to ensure full compliance.

LGW Audit

Progress on the LGW Audit corrective actions is ongoing. The Safety team is currently awaiting confirmation from the Building Services on several safety process requirements related to identified non-conformances and improvement opportunities.

Safety Committee

The next Safety Committee Meeting is scheduled for late January 2026. Committee meetings continue to be held on a three-monthly cycle.

Incidents

No incidents have been reported across the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council workforce for November to date.

At the monthly Staff Briefing, employees were reminded to:

- Follow all Council safety processes,
- Avoid complacency leading into the Christmas period, and
- Maintain safe practices during all work activities.

The Safety Officer has reiterated to machinery operators the requirement to complete SWMS documentation for all High-Risk Work.

Regular pre-start checks are being conducted to ensure operators are adhering to safety procedures and maintaining vigilance.

Security

The Security Team continues to actively monitor Council assets and buildings and are regularly moving juveniles away from Council areas to minimise damage and unauthorised access.

Two large CCTV display screens have now been installed in the Security Office, allowing all camera feeds to be monitored simultaneously. This has already improved the team's ability to identify and respond quickly to potential break-ins or property damage.

Test and Tag / RCD Testing

RCD testing across Council buildings is now due. The Safety Team is liaising with Building Services to schedule the required testing, in line with the 12-month compliance requirement.

RCD testing has begun, and the RTC is already completed, with scheduling underway for the remaining Council buildings.

Fire Drills

Fire Drills were conducted across multiple Council facilities during November:

- Yarrabah Library: 25/11/25
Conducted with the Chief Fire Warden; all patrons and staff were evacuated safely to the designated assembly area.
- Yarrabah Museum and Arts Centre: 26/11/25
Completed in coordination with the Chief Fire Warden; all occupants were evacuated from the building and accounted for at the assembly point.
- Works Administration Building: 5/11/25
All staff were evacuated under the direction of the Chief Fire Warden and assembled at the emergency muster area.

29.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council accept the Director of People and Communities Operational Report, tabled as read.

6.8 BUILDING SERVICES

File Number:

Author: Wayne Douglas, Director Building Services

Purpose of the Report

To provide Council with an update on the operations, key activities, and program progress of the **Building Services Department** for the period **November 2025 to December 2025**.

Focus Areas

Restricted Work Orders

There has been no change to the current position. Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council (YASC) remains under **restricted work orders** (in place since March 2025). As a result, many repairs and maintenance (R&M) requests continue to be placed on hold, leading to significant frustration among both Council and the Yarrabah community.

Council continues active **advocacy with relevant State agencies** to seek the reinstatement of normal maintenance operations and the timely resumption of the housing repair program.

Internal Work Order System

Development of the new **Internal Work Order and Purchase Order Management System** for contractor coordination and facility management is progressing well. The system is expected to be operational by the **end of January 2026**.

Once implemented, it will enhance workflow efficiency, improve record management, strengthen contractor oversight, and support the introduction of scheduled maintenance programs across both Council and external assets.

Contractor Availability for Private Works

Council continues to assist residents seeking local tradespeople for private works, noting the ongoing challenges in attracting contractors willing to travel into community.

Progress has been made in a small number of cases, including one tenant engaging an electrician to supply and install a split-system air conditioner, and several others coordinating carpentry works through local trades with Council support.

QBuild Tenders

A substantial volume of QBuild tenders has been received during the reporting period. Pricing assessments are currently underway, with the objective of finalising costs and issuing purchase orders promptly to enable early commencement of approved works.

Council officers continue to liaise with QBuild to ensure timely turnaround of tenders and minimise delays in work delivery.

QBUILD

Repairs & Maintenance – QBuild Work Orders

Days	10 Nov 2025 (Unplanned)	28 Nov 2025 (Unplanned)	10 Nov 2025 (Healthy Housing R2)	28 Nov 2025 (Healthy Housing R2)
+365	1	1	3	2
181–365	90	88	6	4
121–180	29	36	0	0
91–120	43	74	0	0
61–90	73	50	3	3
30–60	65	73	0	0

<30	151	181	0	0
TOTAL	452	503	12	9

Repairs and Maintenance (R&M) Update

Tenants are reminded to continue reporting maintenance issues directly through the QBuild Maintenance Request Centre (MRC). Where tenants experience difficulty lodging requests, Council's Building Services team remains available to provide assistance and support.

At present, QBuild's current directive allows only urgent repair requests to be raised, with all other non-urgent requests being placed on hold pending further instruction from the Department of Housing. This ongoing restriction has created challenges for Council, as tenants often believe their work orders have been raised for Council action when, in fact, they remain pending State approval.

Council continues to advocate strongly on this matter. Both the local Member and the State Minister for Housing have been briefed on the community impact, and senior Council representatives have held detailed discussions with QBuild officials to progress a resolution. Dialogue with the Department of Housing and QBuild remains ongoing to reinstate normal maintenance operations as soon as possible.

Healthy Housing Round 2 – Program Status

Initial inspections under Healthy Housing Round 2 remain on hold, with approximately 54% of inspections completed to date. Of these, 48 properties have reached full completion, with current data indicating 98% progress across the completed portion of the program. Only nine (9) work orders remain outstanding across six (6) properties, with all other works either invoiced or in the process of being finalised.

The remaining uninspected properties are not currently scheduled to proceed; however, Council remains hopeful that this position may change subject to further advice from the Department of Housing and QBuild.

NAHA UPGRADES

2024–2025 Planned Projects

Category	% Completed	Status / Notes
Refurbishments	100%	Completed
Kitchens	100%	Completed
Flooring	28%	18 to be completed – require transitional housing
Bathrooms	100%	1 to be completed
Bathroom & flooring	100%	PO received. Contractor nominated.
Laundries	100%	Completed
Driveways	90%	1 WIP currently at 70%
Paints	100%	Completed
Home Modifications	95%	3 to be completed
Various API	95%	Waiting on quotation approval for the rest.

POLICY/FUNDING CONSIDERATIONS

State Government Restrictions:

The current restriction on work orders, implemented by the Department of Housing and managed through QBuild, continues to constrain the delivery of essential maintenance services. This restriction directly affects Council's operational capacity and community satisfaction levels.

Ongoing advocacy efforts are focused on securing State approval to lift restrictions and reinstate standard maintenance processes.

Funding Programs and Accountability:

Building Services activities are supported through multiple funding streams, including:

National Affordable Housing Agreement (NAHA) upgrades for 2024–2025 and 2025–2026.

Healthy Housing Program (Round 2) for targeted property improvements.

QBuild Repairs and Maintenance contracts, subject to Department of Housing approval. Each program carries specific reporting, inspection, and acquittal requirements. Continued delays in inspections or Department approvals pose risks to funding compliance and future allocations.

Internal System and Procurement Controls:

The transition to a new internal work order management system aligns with Council's broader focus on improved governance, transparency, and financial control. This system will also assist in meeting audit requirements and strengthening contractor oversight.

Workforce and Contractor Capacity:

Limited access to qualified contractors remains a key constraint on delivery of both Council and private works. This impacts Council's ability to meet funding milestones and community expectations. Consideration should be given to establishing regional contractor panels, training pathways, or incentives to encourage regular service provision in community.

Risk

The Building Services department continues to face a range of operational and strategic risks primarily driven by State-imposed restrictions, contractor shortages, and program delivery delays.

Operational Constraints:

Ongoing restricted work orders have halted most maintenance activity since March 2025, creating significant service backlogs and frustration within the Yarrabah community. This is leading to potential asset deterioration, rising maintenance costs, and reputational pressure on Council.

Program Delivery Risks:

Delays in Healthy Housing Round 2 and incomplete NAHA upgrade works pose risks to funding compliance, timely project delivery, and overall program outcomes. The 2025–2026 upgrade program presents additional capacity and resource challenges given the large, planned workload.

Contractor and Resource Limitations:

A shortage of qualified contractors willing to work in community continues to affect both private and Council work, heightening risks of project delays and inflated costs.

Governance and Communication Risks:

Confusion among tenants regarding the roles of Council and QBuild in maintenance delivery is creating reputational risk and potential conflict. Clearer communication and documentation are essential to manage expectations and protect Council's position.

System and Process Risks:

The internal work order system remains under development, increasing reliance on manual processes and raising data integrity and audit risks until the system is operational.

Financial and Compliance Risks:

High tender volumes and manual record management heighten the likelihood of pricing errors and weak audit trails if not closely monitored

CONSULTATION**QBuild (Department of Energy and Public Works):**

Principal State delivery partner for housing maintenance and upgrade works. Council continues to engage regularly with QBuild representatives to progress work orders and tender approvals.

Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works:

Primary funding and policy authority overseeing housing programs, maintenance restrictions, and compliance requirements.

Contracted Service Providers:

Various contractors engaged for specific works under NAHA and Healthy Housing programs (including electrical, plumbing, carpentry, and home modification services). Engagement continues to be limited by regional availability and travel constraints.

Internal Development Support:

Council's IT and Finance teams, along with external software consultants, are assisting in the development and integration of **the** new internal work order management module to improve asset management and procurement processes.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council accept the report of the Director-Building Service, tabled as read.

6.9 INFRASTRUCTURE - OPERATIONAL REPORT

File Number: 06.MFD_OM.20251120

Author: Sam Bann, Director Infrastructure

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To report to Council the status/activities of Infrastructure Department areas for the month of October/November 2025.

OPERATIONAL UPDATE

This report covers performance up to and including the 08 November 2025. Items contained below reflect actions and tasks performed to progress the projects in-line with funding agreements and project plans.

Planning and engagement with stakeholders and consultants about programmed/scheduled works.

INFRASTRUCTURE AREA -GENERALS

<u>TEAMS</u>	<u>JOB DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>ACTIONS</u>
Roads	Routine and Reactive Maintenance Plan	<p>Roads Weekly Work plan</p> <p>Ongoing DRFA unsealed works Back Beach Road.</p> <p>Require Addition Funding for extra resources to meet the organisation demand</p>
Waste Management	Routine and Reactive Maintenance Plan	<p>Continuing current waste management strategy.</p> <p>Rubbish collection and waste management at the tip (refer to enhance Waste Management project)</p> <p>16T Mix waste disposed via Skip Bin service</p> <p>Does not include 5 x 3m3 Skip bins placed around YASC facilities.</p> <p>43.82T General waste disposed via kerbside collection</p> <p>Cyclone clean up in progress</p> <p>60 loads removed and disposed</p> <p>Seeking grant funding for resource recovery facility to ensure waste streams are managed in accordance with our EA.</p> <p>Require Funding for extra additional resources to meet the organisation demand</p>

<u>TEAMS</u>	<u>JOB DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>ACTIONS</u>
Mechanics	Routine Maintenance Plan	<p>Fleet management</p> <p><u>Services and Repairs</u></p> <p>General fleet maintenance</p> <p>Reactive works with YASC and Hired Fleet</p> <p>Service SPS Generators in preparation for cyclone season</p> <p>Service Museum/CDP Equipment's</p> <p>Repair damaged door on Skid Steer</p> <p>Repair Damaged door on 3.5T excavator</p> <p>Require funding for addition resource for small motor repairs and maintenance</p>
Parks & Gardens	Routine Maintenance Plan	<p>Ongoing maintenance throughout community as per General work plan</p> <p>CDP Like Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - General works within Museum, Jilara Oval and surrounding areas. - TAFE Training in progress <p>W4D Project</p> <p>Parks and Garden program in progress.</p> <p>Require Funding for additional resource to meet the organisation demand</p>

<u>TEAMS</u>	<u>JOB DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>ACTIONS</u>
Animal Control	Routine preventative Action Plan	<p>Animal Management work plan</p> <p>Dog impound currently at capacity.</p> <p>7 dogs collected and 3 removed</p> <p>6 Dogs treated for flea ticks and worm</p> <p>1 dangerous dog complaint received</p> <p>Preparing to upgrade impound facility to implement local laws</p> <p>Ongoing horse impound facility repairs.</p>

Environmental Health	Routine preventative Action Plan	<p>Environmental Health work plan General pest and Weed management: SPS 2, 3 & 8 pest treatment Food inspection planning in progress</p> <p><u>Pest program update</u> - Follow up treatment WIP - General pest treatment</p>
ESO	Water Routine and Reactive Maintenance Plan Sewerage Routine and reactive Maintenance Plan	Routine maintenance as per DWQMP Daily Water quality monitoring No exceedance in weekly verification monitoring
Aquatic centre	Routine Maintenance Plan	General Routine maintenance Water and ground maintenance School Swimming lessons School providing additional bronze lifeguards
		Sewerage pump stations audit required to plan critical upgrades.

	Free & Total Chlorine (mg/L)	pH Range	Turbidity (NTU)	E. coli	Notes
Workshop Street	1.2 – 2.3	6.6 – 7.0	<1.0	<1	Consistent and safe
Primary School	1.0 – 1.9	6.6 – 7.0	<1.0	<1	Consistent and safe

	Free & Total Chlorine (mg/L)	pH Range	Turbidity (NTU)	E. coli	Notes
Police Station	0.8– 1.7	6.7 – 7	<1.0	<1	Chlorine (0.8–1.6) but overall safe PH Consistent and safe
Jilgi	0.9 – 2	6.6 – 7.2	<1.0	<1	Chlorine (0.9–2) but overall safe PH Consistent and safe
Djenghi	1.1– 1.7	6.6 – 7.3	<1.0	<1	Consistent and safe
Aged Persons Hostel	1.1 – 1.9	6.6 – 7	<1.0	<1	Consistent and safe

November – Water Overall Findings

- Chlorine levels remained within acceptable ranges, with minor low results at Police Station and Jilgi
- pH values were stable between Consistent 6.6 and 7.3
- Turbidity consistently remained below 1.0 NTU, indicating good clarity.
- No E. coli was detected above the reporting limit – water remains microbiologically safe.
- Ongoing flushing maintenance within the reticulation network to prevent discolouration

Yarrabah Council has completed routine water testing across our community for **November 2025**.

- ✓ **Safe to drink** – All results met Australian Drinking Water Guidelines.
- ✓ **No E. coli detected** – Water remains microbiologically safe.
- ✓ **Chlorine levels** – Steady and within safe limits.
- ✓ **pH and clarity** – Stable and consistent across all test sites.

CAPITALS

ICCIP – Indigenous Council Critical Infrastructure Program

<u>PROJECT ID</u>	<u>JOB DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>COMPLETED</u>	<u>ACTIONS</u>
1.05	Water and Sewer combined SCADA upgrade ICCIP 1.05	100%	Completed

1.16	Generator for Bore 6	100%	Completed
1.22	Generator to Pump Station 6&7	100%	Completed
2.16	Install New Fencing to Sewerage Treatment Plant	100%	Completed

Reef Guardian Council Grant - CAPITAL WORKS

<u>PROJECT ID</u>	<u>JOB DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>COMPLETED</u>	<u>ACTIONS</u>
ALCRAP00006 0	Reef action plan – STP de-sludge & upgrade electrical switchboard	85%	<p>Works are ongoing. Desludging completed. 455t of sludge removed. 5500m3 liquid processed. Switchboard is being manufactured. Old assets have been removed from lagoon site. Laser scan and survey of lagoons completed. Lagoon repairs undertaken. New ergon service pole planned for install in coming weeks.</p> <p>Note: During the desludging program YASC have monitored release limits to Kappa Ck, at the outlet and downstream, resulting in very limited exceedance in accordance with our EA.</p>
ALCRAP00001 2	Reef action plan – STP Upgrade – Surface Aerators	25%	<p>Works in ongoing. Surface aeration equipment has been ordered. Installation scheduled for April 2026. Detailed survey and service locations have been completed. Detailed design is continuing. EOT to end July 2026 requested.</p>
ALCRAP00001 1	Reef action plan – Above Ground Fuel Tanks	15%	<p>Tender for supply and install new fuel tanks and remove old tanks is out to market. Tender closes tomorrow 13th November. Tenders will confirm</p>

			scope able to be delivered within budget. Project scheduled to be delivered before 31 st March 2026.
--	--	--	---

Enhance Waste Management

<u>PROJECT ID</u>	<u>JOB DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>COMPLETED</u>	<u>ACTIONS</u>
Ongoing maintenance and operational costs	This encompasses routine maintenance tasks such as equipment servicing, repairs and facility upkeep necessary for operational control of the transfer station.	20%	Ongoing project for 3 years. 2 x waste operators have been appointed to management of the waste facility

Housing support program

<u>PROJECT ID</u>	<u>JOB DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>COMPLETED</u>	<u>ACTIONS</u>
HSP CEI - WTP	Design and Construct new Water Treatment Plant	15%	Concept design completed. Survey, service location and geotech at WTP site scheduled for late November 2025. Once Balamba sewer strategy is complete, WTP and sewer package can be tendered as a package. Stake holder engagement and Community consultation commenced. Presentation done at men’s forum. Survey distributed to community
HSP CEI – Balamba Sewer	Design and construct sewerage scheme for Balamba	10%	Sewer servicing strategy and concept design consultancy released to market. Tenders close 1 st December 2025.
HSP CEI – Lagoon Upgrades	Install Inlet Screen and Flowmeter	30%	Being delivered with ALCRAP000012. Mechanical screen and flowmeter have been ordered. On track for installation in April 2026.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council accept the report of the Director-Infrastructure, tabled as read.

6.10 PROJECT UPDATE OPERATIONAL REPORT

File Number: 05.MFD_OM.20251210

Author: Michael Geoghegan, Project Manager

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report provides Council with an update on the progress of all current capital works, infrastructure, community, and funding projects as at **December 2025**. Status indicators have been assigned to highlight progress, delays, and required actions.

PROJECT UPDATE – DECEMBER

GREEN – PROGRESSING **AMBER** – EXPERIENCING DELAYS **RED** – ON HOLD/ACTION REQUIRE

Project Description	Funding	Project Status	Monthly Update - December 2025	Status
Balamba Stage 1 Civil	NAHA Funding	In Progress/On Track	Initial design prestart meeting for the link road held during August 2025. Survey works are complete and has been issued to design consultant	●
Stage 1 Ambrym Street Redevelopment (Civil)	Forward Capital Program	In Progress/On Track	Initial design prestart meeting held during August 2025. Engineering design commenced September 2025.	●
Bulguru Park Cabins - Supply and Installation		Close Out	Project Complete - contract entered into defects liability period.	●
Bulguru Park - Civil Works Package		In Progress/On Track	Driveways and pathways complete. Containers have been delivered and installed. Street trees and furniture will be installed closer to Christmas. Minor defects to be attended to prior to Christmas shutdown.	●
Program 1 - Construction of 5 New dwellings and 2 x Extensions		Capital Housing Program	In Progress/On Track	Program 1 - Housing designs are finalised and the team is awaiting feedback on 20 Workshop Road. 11 Smith Street initial earthworks complete, plumbing under slab has been installed. Steel frames for 11 Smith Street are currently being detailed and manufactured, with delivery planned for the first week
Program 2 - Construction of 8 x Extensions		In Progress/On Track		●

Program 3 - Construction of 8 x Extensions		In Progress/On Track	after the new year. All final BA stamped plans are expected to be returned before the Christmas shutdown.	●
Disaster Coordination Centre - Stormwater Improvements	LRRG	Close Out	Project progressing to funding close out	●
YASC.0025 Sealed Works Package	DRFA 2023	Close Out	Works finalised during the month of July 2025. Currently in close out phase and final reporting to have final payments released to Council.	●
YASC.0033 Flood Warning Systems		Close Out	Contacto completed works but identified a broken sensor at Bukki. The Bureau of Meteorology will be attending Community in Dec to review the assets ahead of their FWIN Project in preparation of handing the flood assets over to the Bureau.	●
2023 Betterment Reservoir Road		In Progress/On Track	Road construction is nearing completion at the Noble - Reservoir Sawmill intersection. Kerb, seal and asphalt completed during November. Minor defects, pathways and landscaping to follow. Council employ 4 local operators and 2 local traffic controllers on this project.	●
YASC.0032 Unsealed Works Package	DRFA 2024 - TC Jasper	In Progress/On Track	Buddabadoo Road nearing completion with the remaining unsealed roads expected to be finalised prior to the Christmas shut down. Council employ 4 local operators and 2 local traffic controllers on this project.	●
YASC.0034 Sealed Works Package		Close Out	Works finalised during the month of September 2025. Currently in close out phase and final reporting to have final payments released to Council.	●
Council Facility Improvements and Resilience	Work for Queensland 5 24-27	Close Out	Elders hub refurb completed. Project is in close out stage	●
Esplanade Beautification		In Progress/On Track	Design development has continued with consultation between Project Manager team and the designer to refine the concept layout. The endorsed Foreshore Master Plan remains the guiding framework, and we are currently exploring opportunities to incorporate additional elements into the design prior to presentation to Council.	●

Bishop Malcolm Park - stage security and fencing improvements		In Progress/On Track	Stage screening is scheduled to commence during November. As part of the same funding a mobile LED display trailer has been procured. Delivery to community is expected in the leadup to Christmas. Training will be provided to staff upon arrival. The unit includes a protective screen cover for storage and transport.	●
Cemetery Upgrade - Fencing New and Old Cemetery		In Progress/On Track	Street furniture has been delivered and needs to be installed by council.	●
Public Toilet Blocks - Wungu and Jilji		In Progress/On Track	Proposal for Kunjura toilet block has been presented to GMYPPBC at the board meeting on Wednesday 15th Oct. GMYPPBC provided no approval to proceed however advised they would provide feedback during December at the earliest. Nil update to date received.	●
Museum Boardwalk and Amphitheatre		In Progress/On Track	The Amphitheatre stakeholder meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday 9th of November with external designer and architect. GAC requested a meeting with Council to discuss works further. CEO has been informed and will arrange meeting.	●
Yarrabah Lookout - Walking Trail and Facilities		In Progress/On Track	RFQ for engineering design was issued last month. The designer's proposal has now been received and the engagement has commenced. The engineer and designer are progressing concept investigations for the pull over spaces and potential lookout location. We are currently awaiting the surveyor's updated survey information for the revised alignment area, which will inform the next stage of design. We are currently investigating funding streams to increase the scope for additional overtaking lanes.	●
Extension of the Gillian Bann Women Facility and the construction of the bottom Field	Play Our Way Program	In Progress/On Track	A meeting was held with Gillian Bann during November to discuss the current concept design and proposed inclusions. Awaiting feedback as at 1/12/2025. Once this has been received and incorporated, we will move into engagement with suppliers to support costings and further design progression.	●
Roads to Recovery 2024-2029	Roads to Recovery 24-29	Prestart	Council to consider co-contribution to larger projects - consider utilising funding to contribute to Range Road Lookout if budget concerns arise.	●

Loban Lane and Smith Street Drainage Improvements	LRRG (QRA)	In Progress/On Track	On ground works for the drainage upgrades have now commenced. Progressing as scheduled and works are expected to be completed prior to the Christmas period subject to weather.	●
Stage 1 Ambrym Street - Construction of 10 x Houses		Prestart	MG requested meeting to be scheduled with Architect to confirm floor plans. No meeting has been established to date.	●
DESI Coastal Erosion Funding	DESI	In Progress/On Track	Sand pushing works have commenced with crews mobilising to site Thursday 27th of November. Works expected to be completed prior to Christmas shutdown.	●
ATSI TIDS Annual Allocation 25-26	TMR	In Progress/On Track	Survey works complete for the Range Road and Lookout. Design will progress following receipt of survey report. Anticipate an initial design will be ready to table to Council during February 2026.	●
Bukki Rd Cark Park		Prestart	Cost estimates have been compiled and provided to the Director of Works and Infrastructure for review and processing.	●
Yarrabah Supermarket - Cold Rooms	QRA- LRRG	Prestart	RFQ's issued for the supply and installation of new cold room/freezer room at the Yarrabah Supermarket. A total of 4 RFQ's were issued with 2 returning quotes. Delivery timeframes and pricing has been considered and an RFQ review report will be submitted to the CEO for approval.	●

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Project Update – December 2025.

17 CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 SPONSORSHIP

File Number: 07.COR_OM20251210

Author: Michael Miller, Chief Executive Officer

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To present a sponsorship request received from the Yarrabah Rugby League Team seeking financial assistance to attend the 2026 Survival Day Knockouts Reconciliation Carnival and to seek Council's determination based on the Community Grants & Donations Program.

BACKGROUND

Council has received a sponsorship request from **Mr Kenan Murgha**, on behalf of the Yarrabah Rugby League Team, seeking financial support to participate in the 2026 Survival Day Knockouts Reconciliation Carnival.

Two supporting documents were provided:

- **Official Sponsorship Invitation & Packages** from the Survival Day Knockouts Committee (Gold/Silver/Bronze tiers).
- **Yarrabah Rugby League Team Sponsorship Request** outlining team purpose, mental health focus, and cost breakdown.

The carnival is a major cultural, reconciliation-focused sporting event that unites Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous communities through rugby league. It promotes cultural pride, healthy living, and connection for youth, families and Elders.

The Yarrabah Rugby League Team has a strong focus on **Men's Mental Health**, acknowledging the barriers men face in seeking help and using sport as a positive pathway to promote awareness and connection.

POLICY / FUNDING CONSIDERATIONS

- Council's policy permits a maximum of \$1,000 per organisation per financial year.
- Approving the full \$5,000 would require a Council resolution granting an exemption to policy.
- Sponsorship would be funded from the 2025/26 Community Grants & Donations budget.
- Impact on remaining budget should be considered if the full amount is approved.

RISK

- Approving above the limit may set a **precedent** for future applications.
- Declining may impact Council's visibility and community engagement at a major cultural event.
- Reputational risks are mitigated through transparent decision-making aligned with policy.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Sponsorship | 2026 Survival Day Knockouts
2. Letter

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

a) Provide sponsorship to the Yarrabah Rugby League Team for the 2026 Survival Day Knockouts Reconciliation Carnival up to the maximum permissible amount of \$1,000 under the Community Grants & Donations Program;

OR

b) Approve a special sponsorship of \$5,000 in recognition of the event's cultural and community significance, noting this exceeds Council's standard funding limits;

c) Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to finalise payment, correspondence, and acquittal requirements.

7.2 SPONSORSHIP - GUYULA RUGBY LEAGUE TEAM

File Number: 02.COR_OM.20251210

Author: Michael Miller, Chief Executive Officer

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To seek Council's consideration and endorsement of a sponsorship request from the Guyula Rugby League Team to support their participation in the 2025 Rugby League Season and associated community events. The request aligns with Council's commitment to promoting community wellbeing, youth development, and Indigenous leadership.

BACKGROUND

The Guyula Rugby League Team is an Indigenous sporting organisation committed to promoting positive pathways, cultural identity and community empowerment through sport. The team has submitted a formal 2025 Sponsorship Proposal outlining opportunities for partnership to assist with costs relating to:

- Team uniforms and equipment
- Travel and accommodation
- Player registration fees
- Health and wellbeing initiatives
- Community engagement activities

The team plays an active role in fostering youth development, cultural pride, and positive representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, aligning strongly with Council's corporate and community objectives.

COMMENT

The Guyula Rugby League Team's proposal offers several sponsorship tiers, ranging from \$500 to over \$5,000, each providing varying levels of recognition and promotional opportunities for Council.

POLICY/FUNDING CONSIDERATIONS

Any approved contribution would be drawn from Council's Community Grants / Sponsorship allocation (or other relevant budget line as directed by Finance). Sponsorship should comply with the YASC Community Grants and Sponsorship Policy, including reporting and recognition requirements.

RISK

Risks relate primarily to reputational considerations should the sponsored entity not meet conduct expectations. This risk is mitigated by the team's strong community standing and positive track record of cultural representation, youth engagement, and community participation.

ATTACHMENTS**1. Guyula Rugby League Team****RECOMMENDATION**

That Council resolve to That Council resolve to provide sponsorship support to the Guyula Rugby League Team for the 2025 Rugby League Season.

1. That Council approve a sponsorship contribution of the Guyula Rugby League Team; and
2. That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to finalise sponsorship arrangements and recognition requirements in accordance with Council policy.

18 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

Nil

19 CLOSE OF MEETING